

**George Washington to William Burke, February 1, 1776,  
Appointment, The Writings of George Washington from  
the Original Manuscript Sources, 1745-1799. John C.  
Fitzpatrick, Editor.**

**To CAPTAIN WILLIAM BURKE**

Cambridge, February 1, 1776.

By Virtue of the Powers and Authorities to me given by the honourable Continental Congress, I do hereby constitute and appoint you Captain and Commander of the Schooner Warren, now lying at Beverly Port, in the service of the United Colonies of North America; to have, hold, exercise, and enjoy the said Office of Captain and Commander of the said Vessel, and to perform and execute all Matters and Things which to your said Office do, or may of Right belong, or appertain, untill further Order shall be given herein by the honourable Continental Congress, myself, or any future Commander in Chief of said Army, Willing and commanding all Officers, Soldiers, and Persons whatsoever, any way concerned, to be obedient and assisting to you in the due execution of this Commission.

Given under my hand and seal etc.<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Instructions issued were the same as those to Capt. Charles Dyar, Jan. 20, 1776, q. v.